

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-20 (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a United States strain PRRS virus, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus, and said sequence being at least 15kb in length.

22. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus deposited under ATCC Accession No. VR 2332, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus, and said sequence being at least 15kb in length.

23. (currently amended) A transfected cell comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus deposited under ATCC Accession No. VR 2332, which transfected cell is capable of expressing the encoded PRRS virus, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus, and said DNA sequence being at least 15kb in length.

24. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide molecule in the form of a plasmid, wherein said isolated polynucleotide molecule comprises a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus deposited under ATCC Accession No. VR 2332, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus, and said sequence being at least 15kb in length.

25. (currently amended) An isolated infectious RNA molecule encoded by an isolated polynucleotide molecule, which infectious RNA molecule encodes a PRRS virus deposited under ATCC Accession No. VR 2332, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus, and said polynucleotide being at least 15kb in length.

26. (currently amended) A recombinant PRRS virus encoded by an isolated polynucleotide molecule having a length of at least 15kb and comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus deposited under ATCC Accession No. VR 2332, said infectious RNA molecule being produced by a host cell that is not susceptible to infection by wild-type PRRS virus.

27. (withdrawn) An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a DNA sequence encoding an infectious RNA molecule encoding a PRRS virus wherein said PRRS virus comprises ORF7 protein of ATCC VR 2332.